STATE OF TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION DIVISION OF WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF PROPOSED TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDLS) FOR CHLORDANE, DIOXINS, & POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS FOR THE MAINSTEM OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER IN THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER WATERSHED (HUC 08010100), TENNESSEE

Announcement is hereby given of the availability of Tennessee's proposed Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for chlordane, dioxins, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) for the mainstem of the Mississippi River in the Mississippi River Watershed, located in western Tennessee. Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act requires states to develop TMDLs for waters on their impaired waters list. TMDLs must determine the allowable pollutant load that the water can assimilate, allocate that load among the various point and nonpoint sources, include a margin of safety, and address seasonality.

The Mississippi River was identified on Tennessee's Final 2006 303(d) list as not supporting designated use classifications due to elevated levels of chlordane, dioxins, and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in fish tissue samples. Contaminated sediments are the source of pollutant causes associated with these impairments. Using a mass-balance approach, the TMDLs utilize Tennessee's general water quality criteria, fish tissue sampling data collected from the Mississippi River, fish advisory calculations, Bioconcentration Factors defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and an appropriate Margin of Safety (MOS) to establish chlordane, dioxin, and PCB loading levels which will result in lower fish tissue concentrations and the attainment of water quality standards.

INFORMATION: TMDL Document (requires Adobe Reader)

Technical questions regarding this TMDL should be directed to the following members of the Division of Water Pollution Control staff:

Vicki S. Steed, P.E., Watershed Management Section Telephone: 615-532-0707

Sherry H. Wang, Ph.D., Watershed Management Section

Telephone: 615-532-0656

Persons wishing to comment on the proposed TMDL are invited to submit their comments in writing no later than June 16, 2008 to:

Division of Water Pollution Control Watershed Management Section 7th Floor, L & C Annex 401 Church Street Nashville, TN 37243-1534

All comments received prior to that date will be considered when revising the TMDL for final submittal to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The TMDL and supporting information are on file at the Division of Water Pollution Control, 6th Floor, L & C Annex, 401 Church Street, Nashville, Tennessee. They may be inspected during normal office hours. Copies of the information on file are available on request.